

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 862 – SB 887

April 3, 2017

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Enacts the “Tennessee Zero to Five Initiative.” Creates and establishes five zero to five court programs throughout the state on January 1, 2018. Requires the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), in consultation with the Department of Children’s Services (DCS) and the Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to determine the location of each program. Requires the DCS, in consultation with the AOC and the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS) to administer the zero to five court program. Requires the DCS to submit an annual report to the Civil Justice Committee of the House of Representatives and the Judiciary Committee of the Senate by January 1 of each year summarizing the results of the programs’ operation. Effective date beginning on January 1, 2018; ceasing to be effective on January 1, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase Federal Expenditures - \$250,000/FY17-18
\$500,000/FY18-19
\$500,000/FY19-20
\$250,000/FY21-22

Other Fiscal Impact – The DCS has realized savings of approximately \$2,000,000 in Federal Title IV-E Waiver funds. Federal Title IV-E Waiver funds are required to be used to reform child welfare and improve safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for children. The DCS will use these funds to administer the five “Zero to Five” courts until January 1, 2022.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (006715): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Enacts the “Tennessee Zero to Three Initiative.” Establishes five zero to three court programs throughout the state on January 1, 2018. Requires the DCS, in consultation with the AOC and the Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, to determine the location of each program. Requires the DCS, to establish at least one program within each of the three grand divisions in order to serve both rural and urban populations. Requires the DCS to submit an annual report to the Civil Justice Committee of the House of Representatives and the Judiciary Committee of the Senate by February 1, 2019, and each following February 1 of each year summarizing the results of the programs’ operation. Effective date beginning on January 1, 2018; ceasing to be effective on January 1, 2022.

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FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Based on information provided by the DCS, the Department will use \$500,000 of the current Federal Title IV-E Waiver funds annually to administer and regulate the five courts.
- Due to the effective date provision, the increase in federal expenditures in FY17-18 and FY21-22 is estimated to be 50 percent of the full-year impact, or \$250,000 (\$500,000 x 0.50).
- The DCS can submit the annual report summarizing the results of the programs' operations to the Civil Justice Committee of the House of Representatives and the Judiciary Committee of the Senate by February 1 of each year utilizing existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- The DMHSAS can accommodate consulting with DCS and AOC within existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- The AOC can accommodate the provisions of the proposed legislation within existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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